

to call ICFMR smalls be...allowing to proliferate around the state, so we made a concession with this that they say 15 beds is what the size should be. Don't laugh at my acronyms, Senator Chambers. Fourthly, and probably a point of contention by maybe some members on the floor, this deals with the certificate of need and what it does do, it says in this bill, it says that the present situation with regards to certificate of need is not addressed in this bill. It does not come into play. So, by the adoption of this amendment, we are saying what now is not the case as far as having some flexibility within the unit for ICFMR to ICFs, that that will stay the same and will not need to go into the certificate of need which was one major area of the committee amendments of 259 that had some language in it that would have changed that drastically and we thought very unacceptably. So I'm up front with you to say that this is the original committee amendments that went onto 259 and this is the language that would not change what is presently the situation right now. I got involved in this situation with the intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded probably about three years ago because of my position as Chairman of the Administrative Rules Committee which is now defunct, thanks to the vote of the people in this body, but I started getting involved in this issue about three years ago and this has been a culmination. LB 259, which is now this amendment going into this bill, has been a culmination of three years' worth of efforts by the mental retardation facilities, by the Department of Social Services, by the Department of Health and by the Health and Human Services Committee to try to come up with some good language to recognize what an ICFMR is in state statutes which is not right now in state statutes because they are federally certified. They are only statute license as ICFs, intermediate care facilities, to come up with some language that all parties could live with so that the state could have an active role in the provision of services to these individuals. I could go on a long time and tell you the history of it, and if there are any questions to this bill, I'd certainly be willing to try to answer those. With that, I would submit the amendment.

SENATOR LABEDZ: We are on the amendment to LB 1100 and, Mr. Clerk, I believe you have an amendment to the amendment.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Lynch would move to amend the Morehead-Hannibal amendment. Senator, I have your AM2456.